
Glossary of Census Terms

Accurate—precise, free from error.

Market value of agricultural products sold—gross market value before taxes and production expenses of all agricultural products sold or removed from the premises.

Atlas—a bound collection of maps.

Benefits—anything that is advantageous or for the good of a person or thing.

Census—data collection activity involving observations or questionnaires, in which information is collected from every unit, for example, person, company, or institution in the survey universe; it is theoretically a 100-percent sample.

Census region—a group of specified States. Several States are divided into each census region.

Complete count—a count of all farms, livestock, crops, acres, etc.

Confidential—secret or private information, not to be divulged or communicated to others.

Crop year covered—acres and quantity harvested during the same calendar year as the census, except for some crops reported for the season preceding the census year such as citrus fruits, avocados, olives, vegetables, and pineapples.

Data—statistics, piece of informa-

tion, a group or body of facts.

Enumeration—specify, as in a list; name one by one.

Farm/Ranch (agricultural operation)—For statistical purposes in the census, a farm is any place where \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold or normally would have been sold during the census year. (Other agencies may use different farm definitions.)

Full owners—Farmers and ranchers who operate only land they own.

Full-time farmer—Agricultural operator who reports in the census that he/she spends 50 percent or more of his/her worktime on the farm or ranch.

Geography—the topographical features of the United States.

Harvested cropland—Any land from which crops were harvested or hay was cut, or which is in orchards, vineyards, groves, or nurseries and greenhouses.

Horticulture—the cultivation of flowers or ornamental plants.

Irrigation—the artificial application of water to land to assist in the production of crops.

Land in farms—All owned and operated land, as well as land rented from others, including grazing areas and woodlands.

Operator—A person who operates an agricultural operation, ei-

ther actually doing work, or making day-to-day management decisions.

Other income—Gross income from agricultural services, including customwork and machine services.

Part owners—Farmers and ranchers who operate land they own and also land they rent from others.

Part-time farmer—Agricultural operator who reports in the census of agriculture that he/she spends more than 50 percent of his/her worktime in occupations other than farming or ranching.

Rural—characteristics of the country.

Production expenses—expenses incurred for the agricultural operations during the census year, including interest and customwork.

Survey—A data collection activity involving observations or questionnaires for a sample of a population. (Surveys are less expensive to conduct than censuses, hence they may be taken more frequently and can update information between censuses.)

Tenants—Farmers and ranchers who operate only land they rent from others or work on shares for others.

Undercount—an incomplete count of all farms, livestock, crops, acres, etc.